



City Salutes ND SAVIN Program

Kristin Clouston 9/8/2010



Victims of violent crimes are often haunted long after the fact, wondering where the criminal is. Now there`s a way to track criminals in North Dakota.

It`s called SAVIN and KFYR-TV and City Magazine are giving this Criminal Justice Information Sharing program our City Salute for September.

North Dakota SAVIN is the Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification system. Since January, the system has sent out 5,400 phone notifications and 3,000 e-mails letting victims know the latest status on a criminal. It was designed to help bring peace of mind.

"Because before, an offender would be released and there really wasn't an update to the victim, and this way, now they can get absconding, escape or if they've terminated their probation early and what not, and there's some peace in that," said Amy Voracheck with the North Dakota SAVIN Program.

People can also go to the SAVIN Web site to see if a person is still in jail, if they've been transferred, or have parole reviews coming up.

Voracheck said, "Right now we do have 20 jails online for North Dakota and that includes the Department of Corrections, and we do have six left to integrate and we have the parole and probation module and the sex offender module and protective order.

So far, the Web site has gotten 14,000 hits this year.

"You don't need to register, so to speak, to get that information. And, you know, people are starting to move more to wanting that on demand information if they're sitting at home at 11 o'clock at night they can go online or call the toll-free number and get the comfort of that system," said Voracheck.

Next fall the system will also be adding courts.

You can access SAVIN by calling 1-866-631-8463 or by visiting vinelink.com.